

UNFINISHED BUSINESS IN THIS CONGRESS

(Mr. COURTNEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, the great Hall of Fame Coach Vince Lombardi once said that “Winners never quit, and quitters never win.”

I was reminded of that quote when the House Republican leadership announced last Friday that they are canceling all session days for the month of October, despite the fact that we have an unfinished farm bill, postal reform bill, Violence Against Women Act, the Cybersecurity Act, we have a fiscal cliff looming for middle class families on January 1, and a sequestration on January 2.

It is true there are passionate differences between the two sides about how we resolve these problems, but you don't resolve it by going home for 7 weeks. As Coach Lombardi said: “Winners never quit, and quitters never win.”

The American people deserve better than a 7-week recess with these challenges facing the American people. It's time for this leadership of this House to cancel their order and get back to work and solve the problems of our Nation.

GOODLETTSVILLE LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM

(Mrs. BLACK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACK. From a small town in middle Tennessee, 13 young men recently became the 2012 Little League World Series U.S. Champions. These All-Stars from Goodlettsville, Tennessee, played with sportsmanship and talent beyond their years. In the U.S. championship game, Goodlettsville racked up 21 runs to become the first Tennessee team in history to clinch a U.S. title. This achievement is a testimony to their dedication and perseverance—qualities that will serve them well throughout their life.

They have made their hometown, their parents, their coaches, and their Congressman very proud. I am confident that this achievement is just the beginning of more great things to come from each of them.

Congratulations, boys.

CONSTITUTION WEEK/VOTER SUPPRESSION

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to say that my team came in second to Tennessee. Tennessee was the only team that beat them—but beat them twice. They did a stand-up job. So did our kids in Petaluma.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I took part in a moving naturalization ceremony as 50 new people from 20 different countries took the oath that made them Americans—225 years to the day that the Founders signed the U.S. Constitution.

Mr. Speaker, there's no constitutional right more precious than the right of self-governance. These new Americans were excited for the very opportunity to vote in this upcoming election. That's why we should do everything possible to ensure that every eligible American can do just that. Unfortunately, several States are throwing up barriers to voter participation, restricting ballot access to silence people's voices.

Mr. Speaker, guess who is disenfranchised by strict photo ID requirements and the like? It's not Republicans. It's communities of color and low-income families.

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WSU SALUTES

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, Weber State University is honoring people, and I wish to mention four individuals who are being honored by the university.

State Representative Gage Froerer and State Senator Scott Jenkins will be receiving the Shurtliff Award for contributions to education. Both of them have done much for their particular communities, as well as Weber State and their outreach campus in Davis County.

Receiving the prestigious President's Award will be Nolan Karras, a cum laude graduate from Weber State who also served as speaker of the house in Utah and was instrumental in Weber State attaining the status of university level.

In addition to that, he has benefited the community as well as the education system in Utah ever since by being on the board of regents in Utah.

The second nominee will also be one who has been called one of the brightest minds in Utah politics, Spencer Stokes, a 1995 graduate from Weber State who has done much in his community as the commissioner as well as an advocate, and who's also, I have to admit, gone over to the dark side and is a staffer for the Senate right now as the chief of staff for a Utah Senator, but we will forgive him for that.

These four individuals have done much for the community, done much for their common county, Weber County, and the State of Utah, and are really deserving, very deserving of these honors they are being given by Weber State University today, and I wish to honor them as well.

DO-NOTHING CONGRESS

(Ms. CHU asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. CHU. Mr. Speaker, at the end of what Republicans consider to be a grueling work week consisting of 2½ whole days, Republicans are heading home once again to take the next 2 months off.

The Republican-led “Do-Nothing Congress” was in session for a grand total of 8 days this month, and it took 5 weeks off before that.

During their time here in Washington, Republicans made sure to vote to end Medicare as we know it, increase costs for seniors, and give tax breaks to millionaires and companies that ship jobs overseas.

But on addressing the ongoing jobs crisis in this country, they did nothing. On providing tax cuts for the middle class and small business, they did nothing. On working towards a bipartisan solution to the looming fiscal cliff, they left the American people hanging by continuing to do nothing.

The hardworking men and women who call this country home deserve so much better. They certainly deserve better than nothing.

STEM JOBS ACT OF 2012

(Mr. YODER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 6429, the STEM Jobs Act of 2012. This pro-growth, pro-jobs legislation will create a smarter and more focused immigration system for our country by prioritizing new immigrant visas for the best and brightest foreign students of American universities in the science, technology, engineering, and math fields.

These fields are the fastest-growing segments of our economy, and retention of these highly skilled American-trained innovators is critical to future economic growth in our country.

Rather than giving the boot to students who are American-educated at our best universities, like the University of Kansas, in these advanced fields of study, we should work together to ensure these bright minds can stay here and continue helping to boost our goal of competitiveness rather than returning to their home nation to work against us.

Mr. Speaker, by working together in bipartisan fashion to prioritize these students in our national immigration policy, we can boost job creation and improve our economy by allowing the U.S. to retain some of the best and brightest minds.

PORT INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)